



## 2024 Virginia Network Annual Conference Know Before You Go

We are looking forward to your participation in the VA Network Conference on Friday, May 31, 2024, at the **VSU Gateway Dining and Events Center** at 2804 Martin Luther King Drive, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834.

Registration and a full breakfast will begin at 8:00 AM on Friday, May 31st, in the VSU Gateway Dining and Events Center.

Please take a few moments to review the important information below:

- Campus Maps and Directions
- Lodging
- Location & Parking
- Prepare for the Event
- Media Release
- Thank You to Our Sponsors
- Contact Us

### Campus Maps and Directions

Virginia State University is approximately 125 miles south of Washington, DC and 20 miles south of Richmond, VA via I-95. It is approximately 30 miles from the Richmond International Airport. For directions and maps click [here](#).

### Location and Parking

The conference is being held at the **VSU Gateway Dining and Events Center** at 2804 Martin Luther King Dr., Colonial Heights VA 23834. Parking is available in the lot at the **VSU Gateway Dining and Events Center**. Overflow parking is available at Lot 28. You will pass through a security checkpoint. Lot 28 will be on your left when you enter campus and stretches from the softball field to the L. Douglas Wilder Building.

### Lodging

Lodging is at the Hilton Garden Inn, 800 South Park Blvd., Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Parking at the hotel is complimentary. Each participant is responsible for making their own reservations and paying for their lodging.

### Prepare for the Event

Please bring appropriate clothing. We will make every attempt to keep everyone comfortable in the meeting rooms, but to adjust to your personal preference, you may want to bring a sweater or jacket.

### Media Release

The Virginia Network is notifying you that videos and photos will be taken at this conference. If you elect not to have your image shown, please contact registration.

### Thank You to Our Sponsors

This event is made possible by the generous support of our sponsors. Take a moment to visit our [sponsor information site](#) and plan to stop by their tables, attend their sessions and connect with them throughout the conference.

### Contact Us

If you need additional information prior to the event or for assistance during the event, feel free to contact the conference chairs, Ginger Ambler, [vmambl@wm.edu](mailto:vmambl@wm.edu), Tia Minnis, [tminnis@vsu.edu](mailto:tminnis@vsu.edu), and Tancy Vandecar-Burdin, [tvandeca@odu.edu](mailto:tvandeca@odu.edu).

Letter to ACE Participants  
American Council on Education  
Women's Network Virginia

Subject: Call to Action: Support Women in Need at ACE Conference - Walking in Her Shoes – Shoe Donation Drive

Dear Esteemed Attendees of the ACE Conference,

As we eagerly anticipate the upcoming ACE Conference, themed "Walking in Her Shoes: Understanding the Challenges of Women of Color in Higher Education and Creating Environments Where All Succeed," on May 31, 2024, we are writing to you with an impassioned call to action. In the spirit of empathy and solidarity, we have an incredible opportunity to make a tangible difference in the lives of women in need. As we gather to engage in insightful discussions, share experiences, and foster meaningful connections, let us also unite in a collective effort to support those who may be facing hardships beyond our immediate scope.

One of the most profound ways we can demonstrate our commitment to uplifting women, particularly those from marginalized communities, is by extending a helping hand in times of need. Therefore, we humbly urge each and every one of you to consider contributing to our shoe donation drive. We invite you to bring gently used or new shoes to the conference, which will be collected and donated to women in need through the Virginia Sexual & Domestic Action Alliance. Your simple act of generosity can provide comfort, dignity, and practical assistance to those who may be navigating challenging circumstances.

The shoes we donate symbolize more than just material possessions; they represent our collective empathy, compassion, and unwavering support for women in need. By coming together and contributing to this meaningful cause, we reaffirm our shared commitment to creating a more inclusive, equitable, and supportive environment for all. Together, let us step forward with purpose and conviction, knowing that our actions have the power to bring about positive change in the lives of others. Your generosity will not go unnoticed, and your kindness will leave a lasting impact on those who receive your gift.

Thank you for your willingness to join us in this noble endeavor. Together, we can make a difference—one step at a time.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Tia A. Minnis, Ph.D.  
Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Virginia State University

Ginger Ambler, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President for Student Affairs & Public Safety  
William & Mary

Tancy J. Vandecar-Burdin, Ph.D.  
Director, The Social Science Research Center  
Old Dominion University

Conference Co-Chairs  
ACE Conference